

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

MAY 2 0 2009

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF: E-19J

William E. Butler U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1776 Niagara Street Buffalo, New York 14207-3199

Re:

Final Lorain Harbor Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Lorain County, Ohio - EIS No. 20090146

Dear Mr. Butler:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 has reviewed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) DMMP and Final EIS for the Lorain Harbor, Ohio federal navigation project. Our review and comments are provided pursuant to our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

We determined that the proposed project has not changed significantly since the Draft EIS, to which we had no objections, and, therefore, we have no additional comments to offer on the Final EIS for this project. We continue to encourage the USACE to explore creative financing options with state, federal and/or private partners to reduce the cost of using the proposed brownfield site for disposal of 100% of the non-contaminated sediments, which would eliminate the need for disposal in the open-lake placement site.

Please forward one copy of the Record of Decision for this project to this office when it becomes available. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me or Kathleen Kowal of my staff at (312) 353-5206.

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Westlake, Supervisor

NEPA Implementation

Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance